OFFICE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS



# Message from the Director

As 2003 gets underway, the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs is actively preparing for a new year full of activities. In this issue, read about the advocacy work of the Office of Commercial and Business Affairs and how it helps U.S. companies do business abroad. This office is an important federal resource for businesses in your community. We also summarize for you a new Department of State publication entitled, *Iraq: A Population Silenced.* This publication emphasizes the abuse innocent Iraqi citizens have endured at the hands of their government.

As a part of Secretary of State Colin Powell's efforts to raise domestic awareness of the importance of international affairs, the State Department opened its doors last October to local elected officials and protocol officers. This issue highlights the results of this successful intergovernmental conference. You also will be able to review our activities of the last quarter and our outreach plans for the future.

Congratulations and welcome to all our newly elected officials! We encourage you to take advantage of the resources this office provides as you develop your policy priorities.

Nilda R. Pedrosa, Acting Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

# The following publications are available upon request:

- IGA Brochure
- Diplomatic List
- Key Officers of Foreign Service Posts
- U.S. Department of State: A Guide to Doing Business
- Country Background Notes
- **Travel Warnings**
- Tips for Travelers



# Did you know...

The Office of Commercial ▲ and Business Affairs (CBA) plays a major role in coordinating trade and investment matters to support U.S. firms doing business overseas. CBA, headed by Special Representative for Business Affairs J. Frank Mermoud, places business concerns at the forefront of the foreign policy process by assisting the business sector, building public-private partnerships, and amplifying American public diplomacy efforts by encouraging corporate social responsibility. It also works with other offices within the Department of State, with U.S. Embassies overseas, and with other Federal agencies to coordinate advocacy on behalf of American businesses and offers problem-solving assistance in opening markets, leveling the playing field, and resolving trade and investment

disputes.

Secretary Powell presents the 2002 Award for Corporate Excellence (multinational enterprise winner) to Alex Cummings, Executive Vice President, the Coca-Cola Company, and President, Coca-Cola Africa Group, for Coke's educational, environmental, cultural, health, and poverty alleviation programs in Egypt.

CBA also has been involved in helping organize events with Department and Administration officials for business executives. This past year, CBA sponsored a Business Roundtable on the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act at which Secretary Powell, Secretary Evans, former Secretary O'Neill, U.S. Trade Representative Zoellick, among others were guest speakers. CBA hosted a workshop on qualifying industrial zones in Jordan; a meeting in New Orleans on business opportunities for energy companies in the Caspian Basin area; and business dia-



logues on the Millennium Challenge Account, anti-corruption, corporate social responsibility, and business visas. The office organizes for the Secretary of State the Secretary's annual Award for Corporate Excellence, which recognizes corporate citizenship and best practices of American companies overseas. CBA also manages the Business Facilitation Incentive Fund, a series of grants to U.S. Missions abroad where, in the absence of the Foreign Commercial Service, the State Department leads the commercial function. ■

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# **Success Story of the Quarter**

# Rolling out the Red Carpet: State Department Welcomes U.S. Elected Officials and Protocol Officers



Local elected officials and Protocol officers participate in a presentation on diplomatic security for special events in the Department of State's Loy Henderson Conference Room.

What do local communities need to know to prepare for receiving foreign dignitaries? How does the threat of terrorism impact logistics and planning for visits of chiefs of state, heads of government, or foreign cabinet members? How does foreign policy affect my State or local

community? How do States and cities work with foreign consular officials when it comes to tax exemption, motor vehicles, or customs clearance? These and other questions of international affairs at the local level took center stage during a 2-day conference on October 24-25 that brought more than

100 State and local elected officials and protocol officers from around the country to the U.S. Department of State in Washington. Conference presenters included State Department experts; representatives of the Military District of Washington; the Department of Commerce; and the chief protocol officers from Illinois, Florida, and Nevada as well as New York City, Chicago, and Washington, DC.

Just as protocol is integral to the maintenance, establishment, and promotion of international relations between the United States and foreign governments throughout the world, it is important to local communities as they engage with cities and citizens abroad. By creating an environment of hospitality and goodwill, protocol contributes in a highly unique and meaningful way to the conduct of diplomacy.

Conference sessions focused on international affairs and its relationship to State and local officials, such as how local communities can become involved in the State Department's public diplomacy efforts. Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs, Patricia Harrison, described how local chapters of the National Council of International Visitors play an integral role in the Department's International Visitor Program. Through this distinguished program, more than 200 current and former heads of state, 1,500 cabinetlevel ministers, and many other distinguished world leaders in government and the private sector have visited local communities throughout the United States. Other presentations addressed the role and functions of the U.S. Office of Protocol, tips for the coordination of special events and VIP ceremonies, and security procedures for protecting dignitaries. Conference attendees also attended specialissue briefings for State and local officials on aspects of U.S. foreign policy, such as the implications of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the Federal Government's international advocacy work on behalf of U.S. business. Participants also had a special opportunity to visit the official Diplomatic Reception Rooms and view the extraordinary collection of 18th-century American furnishings, paintings, and decorative arts. ■

#### In the News

Secretary of State Colin L. Powell announced on December 13 a new publication, *Iraq: A Population Silenced*, which further documents why the current Iraqi regime remains a threat to its own people, its neighbors, and the international community as a whole.

The publication summarizes the abuse and atrocities innocent Iraqi citizens have endured at the hands of their government, including executions, torture, rape, and disappearances. Through stories of the regime's brutality against both individuals and entire communities, the pamphlet shows how Saddam Hussein has given the Iraqi people a terrible choice—to remain silent or face the consequences. The Iraqi regime has long used terror and fear to silence the legitimate voice of the opposition. But despite cruel and inhuman suffering, their voices are still being heard. This publication seeks to give voice to those Hussein has tried for so long to silence and provides context for the current effort to disarm Iraq.

E-mail us at <u>paiga@state.gov</u> or contact us at (202) 647-5358 to receive a free copy of *Iraq: A Population Silenced.* ■



## Outreach

#### **OCTOBER 2002**

- Arranged courtesy visit in Farmington, ME, between Deputy Inspector General Anne Sigmund, Town Manager Richard Davis, and Chair of the Board of Selectmen Mary Wright
- Coordinated meeting in Vancouver, WA, between Alexander Karagiannis of the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs and Mayor Royce Pollard
- Facilitated office meeting in Kansas City, MO, between Donna Hopkins of the Bureau of Political-Military Affairs and Mayor Kay Barnes
- Arranged courtesy visit in Greensboro, NC, between Hometown Diplomat Raymond Maxwell and City Councilman Robby Perkins
- Arranged courtesy visit in Bethel Park, PA, between Hometown Diplomat Nora Dempsey and Mayor Cliff Morton
- Coordinated a discussion in Miami, FL, between Charles Ries, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary in the Bureau of European and Eurasian Affairs, and Tony Ojeda, Miami-Dade Director of Protocol, International Trade and Commerce
- Coordinated a courtesy visit in Stamford, CT, between Ambassador Vicki Huddleston, former Principal Officer at the U.S. Interests Section in Havana, Cuba, and Mayor Dannel Malloy
- Arranged an office meeting in Lovingston, VA, between Hometown Diplomat Rian Harris and School Superintendent Ernest Worley

 Facilitated a meeting in Coffeyville, KS between Hometown Diplomat Sherri Holliday and Mayor David Baldwin.

#### **NOVEMBER 2002**

• Coordinated a reception in Brussels, Belgium, hosted by the U.S. Embassy to Belgium in honor of a leadership delegation from the County Executives of America (see photo). Moscow, ID, between Ryan Crocker, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, Marshall Comstock, Mayor of Moscow, and Mitchell Chandler, Mayor of Pullman, WA

 Coordinated a one-day program in Missoula, MT, that brought together Ambassador Thomas McNamara, Special Coordinator for UN Terrorism



(Left to right) Jack Doyle, County Executive of Monroe County, NY; Brenda Schoonover, Deputy Chief of Mission, U.S. Embassy to Belgium; Mike Griffin, Executive Director, County Executives of America; and Virginia Fields, Manhattan Borough President, City of New York at a reception hosted by the U.S. Embassy.

- Coordinated courtesy visit in Meadville, PA, between Hometown Diplomat Thomas Grubisha and Mayor Richard Friedberg
- Arranged a courtesy visit in Pittsford, NY, between Hometown Diplomat Thomas Grubisha and Mayor Richard Friedberg
- Arranged a courtesy visit in Henrietta, NY, between Hometown Diplomat Thomas Grubisha and State Assemblyman Joseph Errigo
- Coordinated a meeting in Spokane, WA, between Ryan Crocker, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern Affairs, and Maryanne McCurdy of Governor Gary Locke's office
- Facilitated a courtesy visit in

- Matters, with Missoula Mayor Mike Kadas, County Commissioner Barb Evans, and State Senator Mike Halligan
- Facilitated a meeting in Ithaca, NY, between Hometown Diplomat Yael Lempert and State Assemblyman Martin Luster

# **DECEMBER 2002**

- Participated and exhibited in the National League of Cities Congress of Cities and Exposition in Salt Lake City, UT
- During an outreach visit to Dothan, AL, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Public Affairs, Betsy Murphy, was honored with a reception hosted by local elected officials, including Mayor Chester Sowell and City Commissioner Matt Bullard
- Participated and exhibited in the Council of State

- Governments State Trends and Leadership Forum in Richmond, VA
- Coordinated a meeting in Portland, OR, between Hometown Diplomat James Seward and Mayor Phyllis Oster, International Director for Mayor Vera Katz
- Coordinated pre-departure country briefings for State legislators from Kentucky, New Jersey, Nevada, Louisiana, West Virginia, Virginia, Indiana, New York, New Mexico, Texas, Wyoming, Kansas, and California that participated in Study Tours of the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) in Hong Kong, Nigeria, Guatemala, and Nicaragua
- Arranged a courtesy visit in Houston, TX, for Hometown Diplomat Colonel Lawrence Wilkerson and Judge Robert Eckels
- Coordinated participation of Doug Wagner, Executive Assistant to Mayor Pate, in a Department of State-sponsored Town Meeting in Cedar Rapids, IA
- Participated and exhibited in the National Black Caucus of State Legislators 26th Annual Legislative Conference in Indianapolis, IN (see photo)



(Left to right) Linda Green, IGA staff at the Department of State; Georgia State Senator Valencia Seay; and Bettye Mayes, IGA staff at the Department of State during the Indianapolis meeting of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators

- Arranged for Ambassador Thomas McNamara, Special Coordinator for UN Terrorism Matters, to address the Working Group on Homeland Security at the American Legislative Exchange Council's Policy Summit in Washington, DC. The IGA office also exhibited at this convention
- Coordinated a discussion of

- global issues at a forum of Council for International Visitors to Iowa Cities in Iowa City, IA, at which Mayor Ernest Lehman gave opening remarks
- Arranged for Secretary of State Colin L. Powell to address a special orientation for newly elected State governors at the White House in Washington, DC

#### **IGA** on the Horizon

In the approaching months, IGA will be participating in the following conferences and activities. Be sure to check this section each month for updates on when we will be in your city or participating at your organization's next conference.

Also, please feel free to contact us about any other conferences or activities for which you think our participation would be warranted.



# About the Office of Intergovernmental Affairs

# How the IGA Office can help

#### **Access:**

- Coordinate meetings with Department experts in Washington or your community;
- Arrange special-issue briefings; and
- Create a forum in which your foreign policy views can be heard by senior Department officials.

#### **Assistance:**

- Provide information on foreign policy, international trade, education, exchanges, and protocol issues;
- Engage the support of U.S. Embassies and Missions for official delegations' travel abroad; and
- Direct State and local officials to the appropriate Department office for international, travel, or foreign policy concerns.

# **Information Requests**

Contact us by phone, e-mail, or regular mail at:

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# **IGA Staff Members**

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Bettye Mayes, Midwestern Region Representative

David Freudenwald, Northeastern Region Representative

Renee Saunders, Southern Region Representative

#### **JANUARY 2003**

United States Conference of Mayors 71st Winter Meeting Washington, DC

#### **FEBRUARY 2003**

National Conference of Lieutenant Governors State-Federal Meeting Washington, DC

National Association of Secretaries of State Winter Meeting Washington, DC

> National Governors Association Winter Meeting Washington, DC

National Association of Counties Legislative Conference Washington, DC

## **MARCH 2003**

National Association of Regional Councils Washington Policy Conference Washington, DC

National Conference of State Legislatures Leader-to-Leader Meeting Washington, DC

> National League of Cities Congressional City Conference Washington, DC



#### IGA is on the Web!

Visit us at: www.state.gov/r/pa/iga